



CASTLE STREET METHODIST CHURCH

"Where all are welcome – all the time"

www.castlestreet.org.uk

Sunday 26th March 2017 – Mothering Sunday

Welcome to worship with us – whether this is the first time you have entered our church, or if you are a long-standing member of our congregation. We seek to offer friendship and opportunities for learning more of God's will in this place and in this generation.

Refreshments are served in the hall following most Sunday services – please do stay for a chat over a cuppa and a biscuit.

Sun 26th Mar 10.45 ALL-AGE MORNING WORSHIP
Rev. Alison Walker

18.30 EVENING WORSHIP
Maureen Kendall: "Light in the darkness"

Bible readings: John 9: 1-41 (page 98); Ephesians 5: 8-14 (page 184)

We pray... for Mothering Sunday

Wed 29th Mar 10.00 "Time to Be" prayer and fellowship

10.30-12.00 Coffee morning

12.00-13.00 "Forever Active" exercise class

Thu 30th Mar 10.00-12.00 "First Friends" baby and toddler group

19.00 for 20.00 Table Talk: Lent Course

Sun 2nd Apr 10.45 MORNING WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION
Rev. Alison Walker

18.30 EVENING WORSHIP
Rev. Alan Ashton

Please take a copy of Castle View for fuller details of what's on each month.

Baptism of Gabriel Mensah this morning

This morning's service includes the baptism of Gabriel Isaac Kofi Mensah, one of the youngest members of our church family. We welcome the family of Gilbert and Marie to Castle Street for this special occasion. There will be lunch afterwards in the church hall – and all are invited to stay to continue the celebrations and fellowship.



East Africa Famine Appeal

Last week's appeal for financial help to relieve some of the human consequences of the developing famine across much of East Africa raised a magnificent £331. As indicated at the time, this was doubled from general Church funds. A cheque from Castle Street for £662 was sent last Monday to All We Can, which is working with partners in the region. Thank you for your generosity.



“I Wonder” for Easter

We are holding another “I wonder” storytelling session for children on Wednesday 12th April, this time on an Easter theme (it's the Wednesday of Holy Week, which is the second week of the local school holidays). As before, this event coincides with the usual Wednesday coffee morning.

Building on our successful events last summer and at Christmas, we are hoping to have quite a number of children joining us, and parents (with under threes) stopping off for a coffee and chat while their children are busy. We have enough volunteers to run the sessions for the children (though more are welcome if anyone is keen). However, we are still looking for more help with looking after the parents(!). This could include being an extra pair of hands in the kitchen, baking a cake for the coffee morning, playing with a toddler or just coming along to chat to whatever visitors we get. Please have a word with Kimberley if you might be able to help in any way.

Please also advertise the event to any families you know; there are flyers available. Everyone is warmly welcome, but booking is encouraged to avoid overcrowding – we were rather overwhelmed at Christmas and had to turn a few people away!

District Synod, next Saturday (1st April)

The Cambridge Circuit is hosting the East Anglia District Synod at Wesley Church next Saturday (1st April), and help is needed during the day in several ways.

Volunteers are needed to help at several times:

- 8.30am - 10.30am: stewarding; registration; setting up, serving refreshments and washing up; directing people to car parks and welcoming inside and outside the building.
- 11.45am - 2.15pm – setting up and serving lunchtime drinks and clearing up (Synod member bring their own lunch).
- 1.30pm - 4.30pm setting up, serving and clearing of farewell drinks and tea; clearing and tidying.

The circuit has been asked to provide tea and coffee on arrival (from 9.30am), lunchtime beverages, and afternoon tea (prior to departure), for about two hundred people. Offers of home-baked food would be much appreciated (tray bakes and biscuits are suggested, and recipes and foil trays can be provided if required); they can be brought on the day, or dropped off at Wesley between 9am and 12.30pm on Friday morning.

It is going to be a busy day, so any offers of help will be much appreciated. Please contact the Circuit Administrator Miriam Webb (e-mail: office *at* cambridgemethodistcircuit *dot* org *dot* uk) if you can help with any stewarding-related task, or if you can help with catering please contact Lynda Meharry (e-mail: lmeharry *at* hotmail *dot* com) or Tricia Graves (e-mail: gravestricia *at* gmail *dot* com). Thank you.



Safeguarding training – advance notice

There will be Creating Safer Space Foundation Training (for those who have never attended) on Thursday 11th May from 7pm to 9.30pm at Castle Street. The Refresher / Update training (for those who attended the Foundation Training course before 2017), run a few weeks ago, will be repeated on Saturday 20th May from 10am until noon at Haslingfield Methodist Church. Please contact the Circuit Administrator Miriam Webb (e-mail: office *at* cambridgemethodistcircuit *dot* org *dot* uk) to book a place.

Accommodation sought for refugee family

A professional family with three children have just received their leave to remain in the UK, and are urgently seeking a three-bedroom property in or near the city; it's needed within the next two or three months. They have been living in Cambridge during the last year while claiming asylum, so are familiar with the area, and the children are well established in local schools. They will probably need to start renting at Local Housing Allowance rate or similar (see www.cambridge.gov.uk/local-housing-allowance-and-rates-we-pay) but hope to get into employment as speedily as possible. If you know of a property they could rent on either a short-term basis while they get their income established, or for the longer term, please contact the Cambridge Refugee Resettlement Campaign (e-mail: [contactrrrc at gmail dot com](mailto:contactrrrc@gmail.com)).



Mendelssohn's *Elijah* at Snape Maltings

Alison and Robin are considering organising a minibus (or bigger!) to Snape Maltings (in Suffolk), to enable people to travel to the Ipswich Choral Society performance of Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, which Robin is conducting. It's on Saturday 29th April and starts at 7.30pm. The Halifax Choral Society are special guests. Tickets cost £16, £18 and £20 (students £8), but Alison thinks there is a small discount for any booked via the choir (or the conductor).

At this point Alison has no idea on the costs of a minibus – but if you might be interested could you please let her know as soon as possible. There's no commitment at this stage, but it will help to see if it makes sense to organise transport. Please share this with anyone who may be interested.



Don't forget the Prayer Request Book...

...at the back of the church – write in your prayer requests.

Please contact **Brian Carter** if you have any items for inclusion on next Sunday's notice sheet, ideally by Friday evening.

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E-mail: [notices at castlestreet dot org dot uk](mailto:notices@castlestreet.org.uk)